

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the finding of allowable matter in claims 12-17 and 19-23.

Claims 12-17, 19-29 and 31 are pending in the application. Claims 12-17 and 19-23 are allowed. Claim 31 is objected to. Claims 24-29 and 31 stand rejected. Claims 24, 26-29 and 31 have been amended. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications. In light of the amendments made to the claims and the remarks below, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable and requests that the objection and rejections be withdrawn.

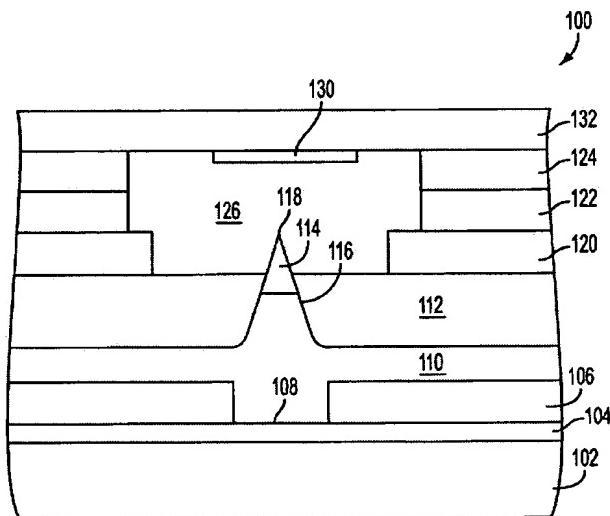
Claim 31 stands objected to based on informalities. Claim 31 has been amended to address the concern raised in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

Claims 24-29 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,086,442 to Sandhu et al. ("Sandhu"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 24-29 are each directed to a field emission display device or a field emission display device unit. Each recited field emission display device or field emission display device unit comprises at least one current emitter. Claims 24 and 26-29 recite that the current emitters have sides "wherein at least a portion of the sides of the current emitters are surrounded by an insulating layer abutting the sides of the current emitters." Claim 25, which depends from claim 24, includes each limitation recited by claim 24, and thus also recites that the sides of the current emitters "are surrounded by an insulating layer abutting the sides of the current emitters." Figure 2

of the present application, reproduced below below, clearly demonstrates this recited element. In Figure 2 of the present application, current emitter 116 with current emitter tip 118 has sides that are bounded, at least in part, by insulating layer 112. Insulating layer 112 both surrounds and abuts the sides of current emitter 116.

Claim 31, directed to a current emitter for use in a field emission display device, also recites that "said current emitter ... comprises sides ..., wherein at least a portion of said sides are surrounded by an insulating layer abutting said sides." Again, this is clearly shown in Figure 2 of the application.



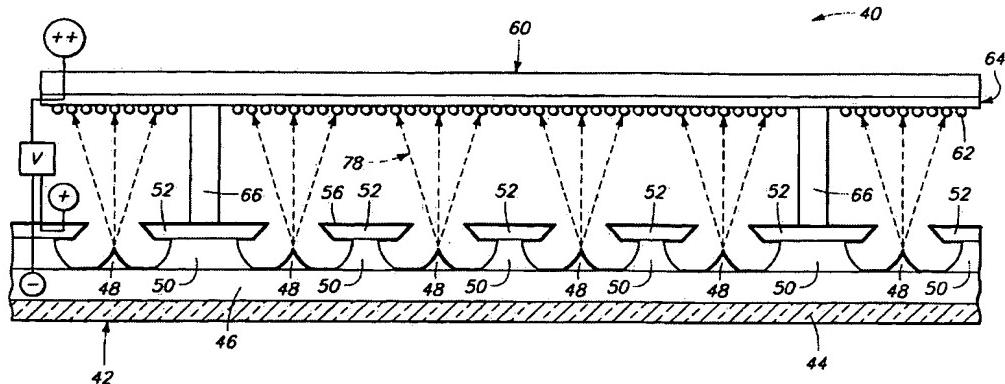
Copy of Figure 2 from the Present Application

Sandhu, on the other hand, is directed to a field emission device that includes current emitters that are not surrounded by an abutting insulating layer. See Sandhu, Figure 3. Figure 3 of Sandhu, reproduced below, discloses an array of current emitters 48. The current emitters 48 are separated by insulative masses 50. However, as is clearly shown in Figure 3 of Sandhu, the insulative masses 50 do not abut against the

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current emitters 48. Furthermore, the text of Sandhu fails to disclose an insulative material abutting and surrounding the Sandhu current emitters.



Copy of Figure 3 from Sandhu

Because Sandhu fails to disclose each of the elements and limitations of claims 24, 26-29 and 31, claims 24, 26-29 and 31 are allowable. Claim 25 depends from claim 24 and thus includes each of the elements and limitations of claim 24; as such, claim 25 is also allowable for at least the same reason. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

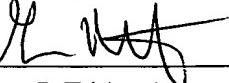
Application No. 10/086,555
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In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes each of the pending claims in the application are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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